

# Medical technique aids Aggie football players

by Holly Powell  
Battalion Reporter

Football teams know that injuries are inevitable; it comes with the territory. The Texas A&M football team is no exception.

Dr. Toshio Moritani, an exercise physiology professor at Texas A&M, is working with the team to help prevent unwanted injuries by using a process called electromyography.

Electromyography measures the electrical impulses generated from the brain that assist in the movement of muscles. These impulses travel through myofibrils, or muscle fibers, and trigger muscle contractions.

With the technique doctors and researchers like Moritani can determine fatigue, endurance, and the strength of muscles.

In the program involving the football team, Moritani determines whether an injury has healed completely so that the player can return to the field without worrying about complicating the injured area.

"Legal complications are another reason we use electromyography on the football players before they go back out on the field," Moritani said.

If a student has not recovered fully from an injury and hurts himself again, the University can be sued, he said.

Using electromyography involves hooking up the patient to a set of amplifiers by either a fine wire injected into the muscle tissue or by surface EMG electrodes taped onto the skin. The

data then is transferred to a printout machine producing a readout called an electromyogram.

For example, running backs are treated for knee injuries by testing the amount of electrical impulses in the injured muscles in the knee area and the frequency they are released.

On an injured knee, there will be a decreased frequency of EMG signals, Moritani said, because the muscles are fatigued. The electromyograms of both legs are then compared. When the injured knee is 90 to 95 percent recovered the player will be allowed to play again, he said.

Moritani receives funds for research through grants. He has received five funded proposals within the last year including a

\$294,300 grant from the Veteran's Administration Rehabilitation Engineering Research and Development Service.

Working with the football team's injured players is not his only area of research, however. Moritani also is investigating the relationship between electromyographic signals and the muscles surrounding the human spine.

Dr. Muro and Dr. Kijiyama, two visiting professors from Japan, are assisting Moritani with his research to discover the reasons for the vulnerability of the lower back to pain.

Moritani, who received his doctorate from the University of Southern California, came to Texas A&M in 1980 as an assistant professor of health and physical education.

# Photo contest open to local amateurs

by Lauri Reese  
Battalion Reporter

It's not too late to start taking pictures for the MSC Camera Committee Fall Photo Contest.

Anyone interested in the contest may enter prints at a table in the hallway of the Memorial Student Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays from Oct. 31 until Nov. 4.

The contest, to be judged Nov. 5, is open to all non-professional photographers in the Bryan-College Station area.

There is no limit on the number of prints a participant may enter but prints that have won in previous MSC Camera Committee contests are ineligible.

The prints will be judged on their overall artistic and technical quality, Graham Weston, vice chairman of the committee, said.

The judging, which will probably last for several hours, will be in 701 Rudder and open to the public. The winning photos will be displayed in the MSC Gallery.

The panel of judges will include professional, commercial and portrait photographers from around the state, Weston said.

Black and white prints must be processed and printed by the entrant but professional processing and printing is allowed for color entries.

All photos must be at least 8 inches by 10 inches and mounted on a mat at least 11 inches by 14 inches.

The entry fee for the contest is \$3 for the first print and \$2 for each additional print.

# Floods hit Texas counties

United Press International  
BAY CITY — Heavy rains Monday closed portions of six roads in Matagorda and Wharton counties and forced the evacuation of 35 people from one subdivision.

A tornado was sighted in Galveston County near the intersection of Texas 3 and Interstate 45 with no damage was reported.

Matagorda County Sheriff's Kenneth Garcia said, "The northwest part of our county

was hit pretty hard."

Garcia said 35 people had to be evacuated from the El Dorado subdivision on FM 1468 in the northwest part of the county because the Tres Palacios River was out of its banks.

Garcia said portions of FM 2431, FM 458, FM 71, FM 111 and FM 1468 were closed temporarily in Matagorda County by high water.

"I would say we had upwards of 10 inches, but we don't know

yet for sure in that area. It (the storm system) just sat over that part of the county and the lower part of Wharton County."

In Wharton County, Chief Sheriff's Deputy Otis Hilderbrand said water rose into houses near Boling and closed a section of Texas 442 at Boling, but he said there were no evacuations.

"Down in the Boling area, they've got one subdivision where they had several houses

that got water in them," Hilderbrand said.

Hilderbrand said telephone service was interrupted in the Boling area.

He said estimates were 9 inches of rain fell in the storm-raked area of Wharton County, but he said some unofficial estimates of rainfall at Boling were much higher.

In Wharton, the National Weather Service recorded 5.59 inches overnight.

# Drug dealer denied hearing for new trial

United Press International  
SAN ANTONIO — U.S. District Judge William Sessions has cancelled a Friday hearing on a motion seeking a new trial for convicted drug dealer Jimmy Chagra, a spokesman said Monday.

The federal court spokesman, who asked not to be identified, declined to say why Sessions cancelled the hearing, but said "the reasons would become clear in the record" at a later date.

The spokesman also said that Sessions could reschedule the hearing.

The motion, filed last August by defense attorney Oscar Goodman, seeks a new trial on

Chagra's August, 1979 conviction in Austin on charges of continuing criminal enterprise.

# High school athletes face tougher rules

United Press International  
AUSTIN — Leaders of the organization that coordinates high school sports voted unanimously Monday to impose stricter academic requirements on student-athletes in sports-saturated Texas.

The 20-member legislative council of the University Interscholastic League approved a rule change that would force a student to pass four of five courses in a previous semester to be eligible to participate in sports or other UIL extracurricular activities.

UIL administrators were considering broad reforms that would de-emphasize high school athletics.

The council's recommendations will be placed on a ballot that will be voted on in February by UIL member schools.

Under current UIL rules a student must have earned three credits in at least two separate courses to participate in UIL contests. The proposed new rule

would require four credits in three separate courses.

"This way, everyone will know that they'll have to pass at least four (courses) to play football," said Jack Frost, superintendent of Georgetown schools and a member of the council.

Some members complained that requiring passing grades in at least three separate courses would prohibit sports participation by special education students, who spend most of their school day in vocational classes.

The council also adopted a rule change that would limit the number of school days a student could miss to participate in a speech or debate tournament.

The rules changes, which would take effect in the 1984-85 school year, were proposed by UIL director Dr. Baily Marshall in response to criticism that sports and other extracurricular activities take too much time and money away from classroom work.

The issue of high school

sports surfaced in Texas when the Legislature's Select Committee on Public Education began a wide-ranging survey of the state's education system.

The committee chairman, Dallas computer magnate H. Ross Perot, was especially critical of the attention given to sports, bands and drill teams in high school.

Perot was among 60 people who addressed the UIL's legislative council Sunday.

"Unfortunately, while you have demanded and gotten A-plus performances in these activities, our schools in some areas of the state have deteriorated to the point where four D's and an F are considered adequate in a learning performance," he said. "Social promotion has become the norm."

The UIL legislative council was expected to delay a vote on some of the most controversial of Marshall's recommendations, such as cutting back or deleting some sports, limiting coaching staffs and reducing the number of games in all sports.



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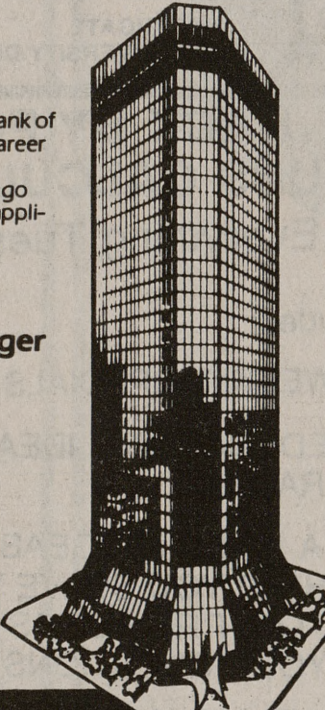
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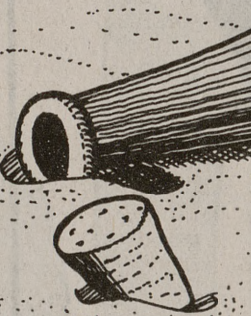
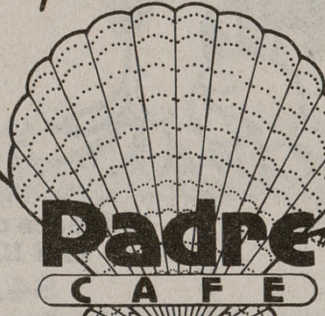
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